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DETERMINATION AND FINDINGS

Authority to negotiate an Individual Contract

Upon the basis of the following findings and determination, a proposed contract justified below is recommended to be negotiated without formal advertising pursuant to the authority of 20 U.S.C. 2304 (a) (10), as implemented by paragraph 3-210.2.

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1. During the week of 18 April 1976, the MAX III suffered a total "blackout" due to loss of critically required interior ambient control. In order that the principle mission [REDACTED] be successfully executed

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[REDACTED]
cations, it is imperative that the chilled water system providing MAX III equipment cooling along with ambient cooling be maintained within the critical limits of the system. Any deviation from this temperature criteria causes automated equipment to fail. Failure of the MAX III is catastrophic since it viably causes possible loss to one time transmissions, delays communications on a worldwide basis, and potentially causes internal damage to electronic components. Failure of the disc storage units alone, which contain critical systems data, all current message traffic plus that traffic processed through the system for the previous seven (7) days, as well as the statistical system data necessary to restore the complete MAX system to service cannot be estimated or valued. The loss of proper ambient temperature also adversely affects cryptographic equipment. Unscheduled shut down of MAX III, even for a short time is totally unacceptable with potential impact on world affairs.

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2. The [REDACTED] facility is electrically protected with virtually fail-safe electrical systems consisting of modern uninterrupted power availability incorporating associated generators and switchgear. There currently is insufficient back-up air conditioning consistent with heat producing expansions of communications equipment presently being reconfigurated and installed by the Office of Communications.

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3. The high outside ambient season is very close and the installation of auxiliary equipment air conditioning is imperative. The market for manufacturers of suitable air conditioning equipment has been canvassed for availability and compatibility with the result that [REDACTED] Incorporated has the only equipment available in the necessary time frame to meet the requirement. Therefore, a negotiated contract for a manufactured and installed chiller and associated components compatible with existing air conditioning equipment is necessary to provide the required air conditioning back-up [REDACTED] and related Agency communication links.

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4. DETERMINATION - A proposed negotiated contract is justified because of the limited time availability in securing competition through formal advertising and the associated scenario of events that must necessarily transpire as a consequence of those procedures.

5/21/76

Date

Contracting Officer

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